

Testimony on HB 1280 Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs March 6, 2025

Chairman Luick and members of the Committee,

For the record, my name is Lesley Icenogle. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of the North Dakota Corn Growers Association in support of House Bill 1280.

HB 1280 promotes fairness and accountability within water districts. Specifically, it stipulates that affected landowners receiving direct benefits from a proposed project must fulfill their financial obligations before participating in decisions that would obligate the district for additional costs. This protects the financial integrity of the district and ensures decisions are made by individuals who have a vested and equitable stake in a project's funding.

This approach reflects good governance while safeguarding the district's ability to proceed with projects without undue financial strain or contentious disputes. The North Dakota Corn Growers Association urges a "Do Pass" recommendation on HB 1280. Thank you for your consideration, and I am happy to answer any questions.